



Description of Faith Health Waco:

- Faith Health Waco is the result of research and study of the Memphis Model provided by the Center of Excellence in Faith & Health through the Methodist Le Bonheur Health Care system and the Faith Health North Carolina Model through the Division of Faith and Health Ministries of Wake Forest Baptist Health.
- Faith Health Waco has the goal of helping churches establish Health Ministries that include an integrated partnership between churches/faith communities and hospitals, clinics and the health district to provide a network of support to improve the health of the Waco community.
- Our team is looking to identify and train lay people inside a faith community that are interested in health. This person will act as the “Faith Health Liaison” for their church.
- They will work with the 2 distinct health care entities (Baylor Scott & White & Providence) and Community Health Workers assigned to the five zip codes (76704, 76705, 76706 and 76707) within our county to assist church members in coordination of care. This group is called the Good Samaritan Network.
- These liaisons are respected members of their faith communities who will bridge the partnership between their congregation and the two health care systems and the Community Health Workers. These liaisons will be trained to coordinate the needs of their members, schedule health education programming, update members of health related classes, seminars, screenings and other events in the community, and provide support and referrals for members following an illness, hospitalization or treatment.

Unique Qualities & Priorities of the Faith Health Waco Model:

- Grown out of the need of the church to address the health (body, mind & spirit) of its members. Created by the church for the church, not created by a medical/health care entity.
- Theological/Biblical framework is the foundation of our model
- Desire for a strong mental health component
- Integration of Community Health Workers
- Inclusion of primary care clinics not just hospitals
- Outcome Measures/Evaluation for Churches/Faith Communities (congregational impact of a health ministry on a church)
- Interdisciplinary Advisory Council (Medicine/Nursing, Social Work, Theology, Chaplaincy, Psychology, Public Health/Health Education, Sociology, etc.)

Critical Roles within the Good Samaritan Network:

Community/Congregation Member: A member of the church/faith community or a member of the church/faith community however that may be defined by the church/congregation.

Faith Health Liaison: A church/faith community staff member or volunteer selected and supported by the church pastor/faith community leader who leads the Health Ministry within the church/congregation.

- Leads and organizes the Health Ministry (volunteers) within their church
- Encourages teaching and education from Bible scripture regarding health, healing and wholeness (physically, mentally and emotionally). Thus, casting the vision of the Good Samaritan and the Abundant Life.
- Recruits congregational members into the network
- Notifies Faith Health Coordinators at health partners of developments/changes involving their members
- Follows network members into and out of inpatient setting
- Coordinates aftercare support to members following an illness or treatment of a condition
- Nurtures and aligns partnerships with community organizations
- Provides information and referral services
- Facilitates wellness activity and participation for members at church location or in the community (schedules health related classes & events)
- Completes monthly report on wellness and Faith Health Waco activities within their church to Faith Health Director/Advisory Council
- Attends quarterly Faith Health Liaison training sessions

Faith Health Coordinator: An employee of one of our health care partners within in the Good Samaritan Network (Baylor Scott & White & Providence) who works as a Case Manager, Care Manager or Social Worker and has been given the distinction as a Faith Health Coordinator.

Community Health Workers (CHW): A CHW is a trusted member of the community, who provides culturally appropriate services through education, advocacy, outreach and care coordination. The focus is increasing access to primary care services and connecting the families with existing services in the community that include the Faith Health Liaison. CHWs improve access to and connect referrals from targeted, under-served zip codes 76704, 76705, 76706, 76707, with resources critical to health (food, transportation, education, application assistance, connecting with a

primary care provider). This grant funded program managed by the Waco-McLennan County Health District.

Faith Health Waco Referral Flow

